

OUR TOWN

A Digital Newsletter from the Town of Dover, MA

Welcome to the May Issue

This month we have updates from the Town Meeting, more updates on the Community Center project, news of a Grant awarded to the town, introductions to two new members of the Town team and much more news and information to keep you updated on what the team here in Dover are busy with.

Thank you to those who read and shared the weekly Town Meeting Newsletters. If you wish to provide us with feedback on those special weekly editions please click [here](#) for a short feedback form.



If you are part of a Town board/committee/commission and would like to submit content for the May issue, please

contact

Ruth Townsend.



 **SIGN UP FOR NEWSLETTER** 

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(Click on I Dover Town News under bottom section - News Flash)

VOL. 2, NO.5, MAY 2023

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE...

**TOWN MEETING UPDATE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**MEET THE TEAM
POLICE**

**MEMORIAL DAY
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

**SCHOOLS
BOARD OF HEALTH**

**PARKS AND RECREATION
LIBRARY**

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
OPEN SPACE**

RECYCLING

**DOVER HISTORY
COA**

**SAVE THE DATE
QUICK LINKS**

Town Meeting Update

Dover's Annual Town Meeting took place on Monday May 1st at the Dover Sherborn Regional School, Mudge Auditorium. Approximately 207 residents discussed and deliberated over 29 items which came before Town Meeting this year.

The following themes and actions were supported by the majority of residents in attendance:

- Funding Critical positions in the Department of Public Works
- Beginning to address the Town's aging infrastructure and needed replacement and upgrades to equipment
- Improvements and energy upgrades to Town and School buildings:
- Continuing to upgrade the Town's use of technology and availability of on-line services:
- Continuing the Town's financial plan to maintain adequate financial reserves and stabilize the tax rate to avoid sharp property tax increases
- Improving the Town's website and ability to communicate with residents using various social media platforms.

[Click here for a full list of the votes on each Town Meeting Article](#)

Special thanks to each of the Town's boards and committees, Town Moderator and Town staff for their efforts in preparing this year's Town Meeting and to all the residents who attended.

Board of Selectmen



**In
Depth**

Dover Community Center

General Contractor (GC) bids were received by April 19th, and evaluated by the Building Committee. At their April 25th meeting the Committee voted to recommend M. O'Connor Contracting, the lowest qualified bidder, for the Community Center project. The cost of the Dover Community Center is now projected to rise to approximately \$25.4 million, an increase of \$6.6 million over the approximately \$19 million approved by the Town in June 2021. The Building Committee made their General Contractor recommendation to the BOS at their April 27th meeting. The BOS accepted the recommendation and plans to hold a Special Town Meeting on June 3rd at 10am, to request approval of this additional amount. Following the Special Town Meeting there will be a Town Vote on June 12th to authorize the Town to raise the property tax rate to pay for this additional debt service, likely over a 20 year period (also known as a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion). In order for the Community Center project to move forward, both votes need to be 'yes' with the vote at Town Meeting requiring a 2/3 majority.

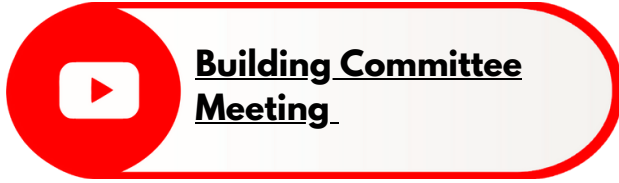
Information sessions for this Special Town Meeting will be held via Zoom on

**Wednesday May 17th at 6.30pm
and Monday May 22nd at 10.30am**

**Zoom links will be posted on the Town website as the dates get closer.
In the meantime you can get more information by following the links below.**

Board of Selectmen cont.

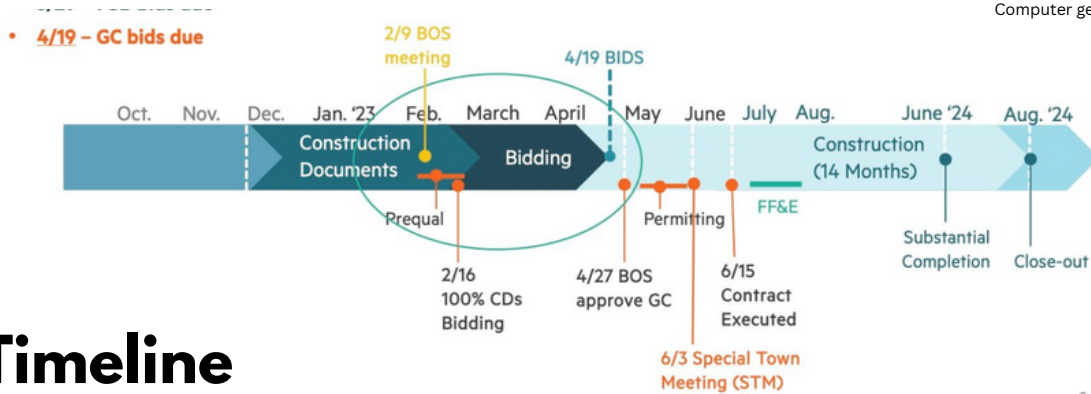
Click on the links below to watch the latest meetings discussing the most recent updates on this project



Click [here](#) for the presentation made by the Project Management team for this project



Computer generated images of new buildings



Timeline



2 fm

In Brief

Board Of Selectmen (BOS) Membership Size Study Committee

A meeting was held on April 12th. The committee subgroups continue to discuss the types of information they need to make an informed judgment on the BOS Membership Size question. The areas of inquiry are: How does Dover work; what makes Dover, Dover; What criteria should be used to select "like towns" for comparative purposes. The three subgroups were asked to summarize their findings for discussion at their May meetings. The goals are:

- 1) to be prepared with the knowledge necessary to guide a consultant's research, if required.;
- 2) to have a strong foundational knowledge of how Dover works to understand what makes Town government effective;
- 3) to ensure fact-based judgements/recommendations on membership size.

Board of Selectmen cont.

Town Administrator Search

The town received 30 applicants for the position. The applicant pool was very strong. The Town Administrator Screening Committee (TASC) selected 7 candidates to interview. Interviews concluded during the last week of April. Following reference checks, the TASC will recommend up to three candidates for the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to interview. During the month of May, the BOS will interview the finalists. In addition, each finalist will meet with Town staff as well as members of the community. Dates for the community forums, (open to all citizens) will be posted on the Town website very soon. The goal is to conclude the search by the end of May.

Hale Reservation

The Interim Town Administrator, Carl Valente and Selectman, John Jeffries, attended a third joint meeting with Westwood Town Counsel, Westwood Board of Selectmen member and Westwood Town Administrator Chris Coleman at Powisset Farm. Together with Eric Arnold, from Hale, DA Hayden, and Robb Warren (Trustees), they reviewed the marketing materials produced by the Trustees Communications Consultants. Mr. Jeffries reports "Since 2017, when approached by Hale, the Dover Board of Selectmen has worked together with Westwood, Hale, the Trustees and stakeholders to carefully evaluate items in the Conservation Restriction which impact the towns differently." Dover and Westwood plan to continue working on the Conservation Restriction, with a joint public relations campaign likely beginning in June. Click [here](#) for more information from a previous In Depth section (page 2) in our January newsletter.

Meet the Team

Welcome Dover's new Town Treasurer/Collector

Meet Kyle Banoey, Dover's new Town Treasurer/Collector! Kyle currently lives in Braintree with his wife, two young children, and two tiny dogs. Professionally, he has a mix of experience in the private and public sectors - working in financial services right out of college and also in the State Treasurer's office. More recently, Kyle spent some time in corporate treasury with Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA and was the Assistant Treasurer for the Town of Brookline for about 3 years. He loves what he does and has a true passion for any and all treasury related items.



Police

Meet the newest DPD Officer

Hasnain (Haz) Ali was appointed on March 16th 2023 by the Board of Selectmen as our newest Full Time police officer. Haz actually worked for the Town as a Special Police officer for a year, but left in 2021 for a full time position with another department. He wanted to come back to Dover and we are excited to have him! He has a wealth of experience, having worked for Boston College Police Department and Framingham PD. He started on April 11th, and after some refresher training will be out on the road. If you see him, please say hello!



Police Officer stood against grey background

Memorial Day



Dover Town Memorial Day Observance

Dover's Memorial Day Observance will be held on May 30th, at 6pm at the Town House, followed by a procession to the Cemetery and then back to the Town House for closing words.

All are welcome!



Highway Department

Dover hosts Stormwater Class for Local Officials

On March 22nd Dover hosted UMass Transportation Center/ Baystate Roads for a class on Stormwater Regulations, Erosion, and Sediment Control. Our Highway Department attended, along with local officials from surrounding municipalities. The Environmental Protection Agency has identified Stormwater as an important regulation to improve water quality and the environment.



a group of people sat at desks looking at a large screen

Dover Receives Grant to develop Stormwater Asset Management Plan

Dover has received a State grant to develop a Stormwater Asset Management Plan and increase the community's climate resiliency. The \$165,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust supports communities seeking to maintain and improve existing water infrastructure including drinking water and stormwater systems.

In collaboration with engineering consultant, Tighe & Bond, the Town will develop a comprehensive overview of stream crossings, such as bridges and culverts; create an inventory of existing drainage systems and outlets; generate a proactive maintenance program; and produce a Geographic Information System (GIS) map of all stormwater systems. This work will assist in creating a plan for general maintenance of stormwater assets; a long-term capital improvement plan; identification of additional grant funding sources; as well as improved staff training, data collection, and public outreach.

The Town will ask for significant public input throughout this process, so that all community stakeholders have the opportunity to share feedback.

"Thank you to the Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust for providing this grant funding," DPW Director Kevin McCabe said. "This project will play an important role in our planning and preparedness, and is an example of our continued work to ensure that we are prepared for future challenges."





Chickering

Chickering welcomed incoming Kindergarten parents for an orientation in late March. Parents learned about Chickering, toured Kindergarten classrooms and met some of the teachers. Their Kindergarten welcomes children living in Dover who are age 5 by September first. If you have not yet registered, please reach out to their main office.

Their Curriculum Enrichment programs, run by their generous PTO, continue to provide a wealth of experiences for students, such as a re-enactment of the Salem Witch trials, author Ted Murphy, searching for seeds with High Touch High and Wingmasters.

MCAS testing is underway for grades 3, 4 and 5. Grade 3 and 4 students are assessed in ELA and Math; grade 5 takes an additional Science and Engineering assessment.

LAST DAY
OF SCHOOL IS OFFICIALLY JUNE 16TH

High School Athletics

Spring sports are in full swing at Dover Sherborn High School. We have 301 student athletes playing a spring sport right now in the Spring season with nine sport offerings. Varsity records as of 4/28/23 are:

Girls Lacrosse 5-2	Boys Tennis 2-2	Softball 2-3
Boys Lacrosse 5-3	Sailing 0-3	Boys Track and Field 2-1
Girls Tennis 7-0	Baseball 5-4	Girls Track and Field 1-2



Teenage girl stood on grass in sports kit

Congratulations to Elo Luczkow (pictured left) who was named the March Student Athlete of the month.

Thank you to Sue Connelly (pictured right) who has retired as Athletic Assistant at DSHS after 27 years of service.

Over Sue's career she worked with 100s of coaches, countless games, and positively impacted the lives of 1,000s of students. We will miss seeing her smiling face at school every day and wish her the best of luck in this next chapter of her life.



Lady with one arm raised in blue raiders top stood on painted rock

Board of Health

Buying or selling a home - book in your Title 5 inspection.

If you are planning on buying or selling a home in Dover, please be sure a Title 5 inspection has been performed on the property's septic system. These inspections are good for 2 years for the purpose of real estate transfers. You are exempt from this requirement if you are transferring between family members or moving a property into a trust. Cash sales are not exempt from this requirement. Please be sure to contact the Board of Health office at (508) 785 0032 x 232 with any questions. Be prepared and help the sale go smoothly, get a Title 5 inspection booked.

Free Covid Tests

Free COVID-19 rapid test kits are available in the Board of Health office Monday-Thursday 9 AM-3 PM for Dover residents. Did you know the Town has a COVID-19 page? Click [here](#) for the most up-to-date COVID-19 news from the Board of Health.



Parks and Recreation

Dover PARKS & RECREATION presents, two NEW ADDITIONS to our SPRING EVENTS LINE-UP...

NEW! Satur-PLAY in May!

Two FREE drop-in social events with unique music, play & craft opportunities each week for Dover Resident Families!

SATURDAY MAY 13th AND SATURDAY MAY 20th

DOVER TOWN COMMON

FOR EVENT DETAILS VISIT: DOVERMA.GOV/538/SPRING-EVENTS

Group of people on grass in front of building

Dover PARKS & RECREATION ANNUAL **Youth Fishing Derby!**

for Dover Resident Families

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023

CHANNING POND

Awards for the largest fish caught in each of the following three age categories:

- 6 years & under
- 7-10 years old
- 11-15 years old

PLUS: All registered participants are automatically entered for the chance to win LOTS of additional prizes, such as tackle boxes, spin and power baits, fishing poles and more!

TO REGISTER VISIT: DOVERREC.ACTIVITYREG.COM

Children fishing in pond

Library

PAMELA MEANS PRESENTS
POWER OF THE PROTEST SONG:
OUR SHARED HISTORY & PRESENT DAY

'STARK, DEFIANT SONGS..'
NEW YORK TIMES

TUE MAY 23

Show 6:30pm

Lady playing guitar

FREE!
All Ages Welcome!

Dover Town Library
56 Dedham St., Dover MA
DoverTownLibrary.org

www.PamelaMeans.com

Mass Cultural Council

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Dover Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



LEGO Club

MONDAYS IN MAY 3:30-4:30PM

Kids are invited to drop in on Monday afternoons in May to participate in LEGO Club! Each week we will have an optional building challenge. Finished creations will be displayed in the Children's Room.

Best for kids ages 5+. No registration needed.



News letter



Join the Dover Town Library mailing list by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Library's website

Friends of the Dover Library



Please join the Friends of the Dover Library at Cheers for Books Thursday, May 11th at the Dover Legion (32 Dedham Street, Dover) for an evening of fun and friendship in celebration of our wonderful library. There will be amazing raffle items, exciting music, a cash bar, and lots of good cheer.

The event will run from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Coach Pete and his counselors will be available at the library to watch kids ages 4 and up. Pizza will be provided.

Tickets are \$25, and \$5 per child for the Coach Pete program, thanks to the generous support of the Dover Mothers Association. All funds raised will be donated to the Dover Town Library. Please visit the [Friends of Dover Library](#) website for tickets.

Open Spaces

Second Saturday Stroll

May 13th, 10:30 am to noon

Please join us for a guided walk, sponsored by the Dover Open Space Committee (OSC). On May 13th, we will walk through Hale to enjoy its ponds and sample a few of its over 20 miles of trails. These trails are interconnected with those through the Town of Dover's Larrabee and Whiting Estate and Trustees of Reservations' Noanet Woodlands and Powisset Farm. Hale is about half of a contiguous landscape of over 2300 acres of open space!

Large pond surrounded by trees



[Registration
Required
Click here](#)

Walks will not be too strenuous but will be over uneven and possibly wet ground, so wear appropriate footwear and bring walking sticks, binoculars and cameras. Polite dogs on leash welcome. We will stroll in misty rain to shine. Parking information will be emailed to registered participants on Friday 5/12. Please register using the link above



Recycling Committee



Dover Special Recycling Day May 13th

The Dover Recycling Committee announces its spring special recycling day on Saturday, May 13th for shredding, collection of personal hygiene items, furniture and bicycles, and tire disposal. Onsite document shredding will be provided by Norfolk District Attorney Michael Morrissey. "Safely destroying old financial documents, bank statements and sensitive papers is an important guard against identity theft," said DA Morrissey. An industrial-grade shredding truck will be onsite on Saturday, May 13th, from 9AM-12PM (or until the truck has been filled). Residents may bring up to 6 paper bags of personal/sensitive documents, including computer hard drives to be shredded.

A special collection for unopened personal hygiene items for men, women and children will be held. Circle of Hope donates clothing, hygiene supplies and other essentials to youth, families, and individuals experiencing homelessness across Greater Boston and MetroWest.

The Bike Connector will accept bicycles on Saturday from 9AM-12 PM. This non-profit, which works with schools and community organizations, accepts bikes in any condition and repairs them through an educational workshop. It then provides the bikes to those in need for affordable transportation to school, activities and work.

Special furniture collections are being offered on Saturday, May 13th, June 17th and July 15th. New Life Furniture Bank of Walpole, a non-profit, will be onsite to accept specific items of furniture for families in need. New Life accepts furniture and household items which they then provide at no charge to those in need. It does not accept items needing repair. If an item is not suitable for a family member or friend, it is not suitable for donation. Please check their website for acceptable items. Volunteers are needed to staff the truck for two-hour shifts on those dates. Contact Janit Greenwood to sign up.

Automobile tires will be accepted on both Saturday and Sunday, May 13th and 14th from 9AM-3PM. Tires are to be placed in the designated collection area. Dover Mobil has generously provided the financial support for tire disposal.

Dover Transfer Station RED vehicle stickers are required for participation. Residents are reminded to make their trip as brief as possible to make room for other users coming after them.

May Recyclable of the Month – RAIN WATER

Summer is on the way - Save water by using Rain Barrels!

Keep your garden beautiful during summer, save precious rainwater and money by purchasing a rainwater barrel. The Dover Recycling Committee offers Rain Barrels at a discounted price of \$60, payable by check for pickup at the Transfer Station. The barrels are 39" tall, 24" wide, weigh 20 lbs., are made of UV protected, highly durable 3/16" polyethylene and hold 60 gallons of water. Click here for more information. These barrels are easy to set up, discreet and useful. In addition to watering the lawn and plants, the rain barrel water can be useful in vehicle washes, or toilet use during an electrical outage.

Water for every residence and building in town derives from the same aquifer, whether you have your own well or use Aquarion. Any water conservation efforts you make can have a great benefit on your own water supply, and the community's water supply. Conserving water should be a year-round effort!



Dover History

Caryl School and Community Center

Classroom in 1910, with students sat at desks



Black and white image of newly constructed building



Building on fire with firecrew and ladder in front

From Left to Right:
Students in a newly opened Caryl School (now Caryl Community Center) opened in 1910, the first school in the town with electric lighting.
The fire in Caryl in 1970.
The newly constructed Cary School after the fire in 1971.

Images and information from the books 'Dover Days Gone By' and 'Images of America - Dover'

COA

History Talks by Local Experts

The COA is partnering with Dover Historical Society to offer talks by local experts. Topics include recent history here in Dover as well as ancient history across the globe.

[Sign up here for these talks](#)

Wednesdays, May 10th, 17th, 24th, 10:30-11:30am in the Community Room, Dover Town Library



Headshot of a man in blue shirt stood outside

May 10th-The Dover Union Iron Works - Learn about a short lived attempt to dam Noanet Brook (in what is now Noanet Woodlands) and power a mill for making nails and iron bars in the early 1800's. Presented by Elisha Lee (pictured left), former President of the Dover Historical Society and longtime Board member of Hale Reservation. He recently started a history blog called The Curious Yankee.

May 17th-The Birth of Civilization: Life 15,000 years ago in the Mediterranean Civilization began to emerge in the lands bordering the east coast of the Mediterranean, such as Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Israel some fifteen millennia ago. Join archaeologist Stuart Swiny (pictured right) as he highlights the development known as the Neolithic Revolution and how the changes it wrought led to civilization as we know it today.



Man in pale shirt and brown hat resting hands on a stick, stood by barn door

May 24th-Of Cows, Copper and Cult: The Early Bronze Age of Cyprus
The island of Cyprus in the eastern Mediterranean had a wave of settlers that changed their traditional life. Around 2500 BC the introduction of cattle, copper mining, and new types of religious beliefs, correspond to the beginning of the Early Bronze Age. Archaeologist and Dover resident Stuart Swiny shares his work in excavating the first Cyprus village of this period, which has helped chronicle the development of complex society on Cyprus. Dr. Swiny is the former Director of the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute and is Curator at Dover's Sawin Museum.

[Click here to sign up for the COA newsletter](#)



Save the Date



Special Town Meeting
To vote on the future of the Dover
Community Center Project
Saturday June 3rd at 10am



**Dover's Memorial Day
Observance**

**May 30th at 6pm
Dover Town House**

*Click here for a list
of the upcoming
Committee
meetings.*

May Quick Links

- ➔ Dover Town Report 2022 is now available to download
- ➔ Learn more about the Community Center Building project
- ➔ Learn about the new Water Restriction Bylaw and Water Restriction Enforcement Bylaw Policy.
- ➔ Interested in serving on a volunteer board/committee/commission? Click to learn about the process and vacant positions.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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Want to contribute to June's newsletter?
Please submit content to Ruth by May 18.

Click below to stay updated on Town news

